



2017 REPORT

# PARENTS AND THE HIGH COST OF CHILD CARE: COUNTY-LEVEL SUPPLEMENT

HAWAII





### Methodology

Child care costs are reported at the county-level for infant child care and child care for 4-year-olds where available across the state. To determine the affordability of child care costs by county, we compared the average cost of center-based child care to household median income by county. Affordability was calculated by dividing the average cost of care in that county by the county's median income as reported by the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey. County-level data was collected in November 2017.

### Findings

Hawaii is in the top ten least affordable states for center-based infant care, which costs an average of 15.3% of annual income. For family child care, three out of four counties with cost data are within one percentage point of the average cost, indicating a trend of more-affordable family care statewide.

Most of Hawaii's population is concentrated in Honolulu County and the island of Oahu. Because of this, Honolulu County has the most access to child care of any county in

the state, and the least affordable center-based care of any county in the state. Families in Honolulu County may pay, on average, 15% of their annual income on center-based care.

In Hawaii County, costs of center-based infant care are more affordable than the state as a whole by 4.2 percentage points. At the same time, family care costs in Hawaii County are the least affordable in the state at 10.5% of median income. Overall, the difference between center-based and family care in Hawaii County was the lowest of anywhere in the state. Family child care in Hawaii County is 0.6% more affordable than center-based care, and is 6.3% more affordable on a statewide scale.

**Table 1: Least Affordable Counties for Infant Child Care Costs by Type of Care**

Rank	County	Average annual cost of infant care*	Percent median income	Difference between county-level and statewide affordability**
<b>Statewide Center-Based Care Affordability: 15.3%</b>				
1	Honolulu County	\$14,168	15.0%	0.3%
2	Maui County	\$12,440	14.6%	0.7%
3	Hawaii County	\$8,325	11.1%	4.2%
4	Kalawao County	NR	NA	NA
5	Kauai County	NR	NA	NA
<b>Statewide Family Child Care Affordability: 9.0%</b>				
1	Hawaii County	\$7,884	10.5%	-1.5%
2	Honolulu County	\$9,046	9.6%	-0.6%
3	Kauai County	\$7,966	9.3%	-0.3%
4	Maui County	\$7,659	9.0%	0.0%
5	Kalawao County	NR	NA	NA

Note: NR = Not Reported (meaning that data is unavailable for a given county); NA = Not Applicable

\*Source: PATCH Hawaii

\*\* Affordability, or Percentage Median Income, is a comparison of average cost against county median income

**Table 2: County-Level Costs by Age and Type**

County	Infant Care			4-Year-Old		
	Cost*	Percentage median income**	Difference to state average	Cost*	Percentage median income**	Difference to state average
<b>Statewide Center-Based Care Affordability: 15.3%</b>						
Hawaii County	\$8,325	11.1%	4.2%	NR	NA	NA
Honolulu County	\$14,168	15.0%	0.3%	NR	NA	NA
Kalawao County	NR	NA	NA	NR	NA	NA
Kauai County	NR	NA	NA	NR	NA	NA
Maui County	\$12,440	14.6%	0.7%	NR	NA	NA
<b>Statewide Family Child Care Affordability: 9.0%</b>						
Hawaii County	\$7,884	10.5%	-1.5%	\$6,855	9.1%	0.0%
Honolulu County	\$9,046	9.6%	-0.6%	\$8,700	9.2%	-0.1%
Kalawao County	NR	NA	NA	NR	NA	NA
Kauai County	\$7,966	9.3%	-0.3%	\$7,800	9.1%	0.0%
Maui County	\$7,659	9.0%	0.0%	\$7,080	8.3%	0.8%

Note: NR = Not Reported (meaning that data is unavailable for a given county); NA = Not Applicable

\*Source: PATCH Hawaii

\*\* Affordability, or Percentage Median Income, is a comparison of average cost against county median income